THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTl): (a) and (b) The reservation in promotions has already been provided to SCjSTs in the Public Sector Undertaking as below: —

	S. C.	ST.
(a) through limited departmental competitive examination inGroupB, C&D(Ct. II. Ill & IV).	. 15%	7-I%
(b) by selection from Group B (CI. II) to the lowest rung or category in Group A (CI. I) and in Groups B, C&D(C1 ILII1 &1V).	15%	7-1%
(c) on the basis of seniority subject to fitness in Groups A, B, C&D(Cl. I. 11, Ui &IV) . .	15%	7J%
Subject to the condition thit the element of Direct recruitment if any does not exceeds		66-J%

Special courts to try offences of sati

1680. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(>a) whether Government propose to set up special courts to try the offence of Sati; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up such courts for any other offence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRl H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Government propose to introduce a Bill to prevent commission of sati in the country. One of the provision's of this Bill is the setting up of Special Courts to try offences coming under the proposed Act.

(b) Government set up Special Court whenever need for such courts arises.

सातवीं योजना की समीक्षा

3681. श्री रशीद मसूद : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 27 नवम्बर, 1987 के "इकानामिक टाइम्स" में 'सेवेन्थ प्लान कम्स इन फार शार्प क्रिटिसिज्म" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस मामले की समीक्षा की है ; और यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

योजना मंत्री, कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री तथा विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री पी. शिवशंकर) : (क) तथा (ख) समाचार पत्र की यह रिपोर्ट स्पष्टतया भारत अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय केन्द्र के आर्थिक दलद्वारा अर्थव्यवस्था, 1987–88 की मध्यवर्ष पुनरीक्षा के विचार-विमर्श के लिए आयोजित सेमिनार पर आधारित है।

(ग) सातवीं पचवर्षीय योजना के मध्यावधि मूल्यांकन पर विचार-विमर्श चल रहा है।

Offer of joint space research centre with Soviet Union

3682. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted a proposal for a joint space research centre with the Soviet Union; 'and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and in what manner it would be integrated with our indigenous national programme upto the nineties'. '

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYAN): (a) and (b) The Soviet interest in establishing an International Space Centre iri Tndia was announced during the the visit of the General Secretary of the C-ntral Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to India ' during November. 1986.

The ide'als were of general nature which include facilities for traiiung in a number of area's and also providing for launch facilities and other related space techno logy and application activities. Since a number of details would need to *oc.* worked out, some discussions have t. taken place between the officials of India and the Soviet Union

Our approach to this ideal will be based on the need for international cooperation for peaceful use of -outer space consistent with our commitment to self-reliance in our national space programme.

Production and consumption of polysilicon

3683. DR. H. P. SHARMA; Will Hie PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position regarding country's annual production-capacity. consumption and unsold stock's of polypi-licon;

(b) what is the demand projection and production-capacity of provision in the coming-years; and

(c) whether Government have received collaboration proposals from foreign producers, including the NRI, if so what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECH NOLOGY AND THE MINISTER Of STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) At present only Metkem Silicon Ltd. is producing polysilicon with annual installed capacity of 25 metric tonnes. Polysilicon is required to be converted into single crystal silicon wafers for use by both photovoltaic and electronic in-dustries. This installed conversion capacity in the country is les. s than 10 metric tonnes and all good quality indigenous silicon wafers 'are being consumed. As of November, 1987, unsold stock of polysilicon with Metkem Silicon was about 11 metric tonnes.

(b) On the basis of demand for silicon solar cells, the annual requirement of polysilicon, if converted into single crystal silicon wafers, will be between 25 and 35 tonnes till 1990. For electronic devices, the requirement of single crystal silicon wafers would correspond to polysilicon quality increasing from 5 metric tonnes to 10 metric tonnes by 1990. If export oriented proposals materialise by 1990, the requirement of polysilicon will for outstrip domestic consumption

(O No proposal has been received by Government on foriifn co'laboraton including Non-Resident Indians (NR1s) for production and sale of polysilicon for domestic consumption.

Indian Fishermen held by pakisfan

3684. SHRI RAMS1NGHBHA1 PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 25th and 26th October, 1987, Pakistani Naval Boats at Gun Point held up Sixteen fish ing vessels consisting of 104 fishing tra wlers including some school children which was on sail as per routine foning operation in our waters off the coast of North Gujarat Jakhau in Kutch;

(b) whether Government has received representations in this regard from Gwa-rat Government and some M. Ps.;

(c) if so, the deails hereof; and

(d) what action has been taken in thi> connection for release of fishermen and the 'school children from Pakistani jails. '

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THI5 MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFATRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Approximately 10 Indian fishing vessels with about 150 Indian fishermen are reported to have been captured by Pakistan in the incident of 25th-26th October 1987 in Indian waters.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) They have requested that Government secure the earlv release of the captured trawlers and fishermen and ensure